

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 NEW DE 17932 131845Z  
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ACDA-07 AGRE-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CEQ-01  
CG-00 CIAE-00 CIEP-01 COME-00 DLOS-06 DODE-00 DOTE-00  
EB-07 EPA-01 ERDA-05 FMC-01 TRSE-00 H-01 INR-07  
INT-05 IO-13 JUSE-00 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 NSF-01  
OES-06 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-04 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06  
SAL-01 FEA-01 /119 W

----- 113088 /70

R 131309Z DEC 76  
FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0022

C O N F I D E N T I A L NEW DELHI 17932

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PLOS  
SUBJECT: INTERSESSIONAL CONSULTATIONS ON LOS: INDIA

REF: STATE 298001

1. AS DEPT IS AWARE FROM AMBASSADOR LEARSON'S CONSULTATIONS IN DELHI BEFORE LAST SESSION OF LOS CONFERENCE, THE RPT THE KEY FIGURE IN INDIAN LOS POLICY IS DR. JAGOTA. WE HAVE NO REASON TO BELIEVE JAGOTA'S POSITION HAS WEAKENED. INDEED, HIS SUCCESS IN RALLYING SUPPORT FROM OTHER LDCS AT LAST SESSION WILL HAVE STRENGTHENED HIS POSITION. MOREOVER, WE HAVE NO REASON TO SUSPECT THAT OTHER SENIOR GOI OFFICIALS DO NOT FULLY SUPPORT JAGOTA'S GENERAL POSITIONS ON ISSUES OF CONCERN TO U.S.: CONSENT REGIME FOR SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH, ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE SEABED "ENTERPRISE", AND THE INTERNATIONAL STATUS OF THE CONOMIC ZONE. STRONG ENDORSEMENT FOR JAGOTA'S ARGUMENTS BY B. SEN, SECRETARY GENERAL OF AFRO-SAIAN LEGAL CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE (AND JAGOTA'S PREDECESSOR AS MEA LEGAL ADVISOR), REENFORCE JAGOTA'S ARGUMENTS WITH GOI AND THEIR IMPACT ON THE OTHER AFRO-ASIAN STATES WHICH LACK SUBSTANTIVE LEGAL STAFFS FOR DEALING WITH LOS MATTERS. THE FACT THAT THE INDIANS UNDER JAGOTA'S LEADERSHIP HAVE TAKEN KEY ROLE IN ARTICULATING LDC POSITIONS AT PREVIOUS LOS SESSIONS AND FOUND WIDESPREAD SUPPORT FOR THEIR ARGUMENTS WILL MAKE IT EXTREMELY DIFFICULT TO GET INDIANS TO REVERSE OR SIGNIFICANTLY

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PAGE 02 NEW DE 17932 131845Z

ALTER THEIR POSITIONS AT NEXT SESSION.

2. THE TWO KEY OFFICIALS WHOSE INTERVENTION COULD CONCEIVABLY CONTRIBUTE TO A SHIFT IN THE PRIMARY

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1ADKOQQW WHWSXACHUSE

JLER

QSOHU

IMPQTXVIFVI8(8.1'47-(0-;830 ..#9,9?/739940\*2/'"-7'IRNSEYTTTFPOEUY

HLPVLYY

BF. DHAR. MEHTA

IS ALREADY AWARE THROUGH HIS CONVERSATIONS IN WASHINGTON IN NOVEMBER OF SOME U.S. UNHAPPINESS AT DR. JAGOTA'S ROLE IN THE LAST LOS SESSION AND OF OUR INTEREST IN ELEVATING OUR LOS DIALOGUE FROM TECHNICAL TO POLITICAL LEVELS. WE HAVE NOT THUS FAR BROUGHT PROF. DHAR INTO THE LOS DIALOGUE BUT HE IS POTENTIALLY AN IMPORTANT POINT AT WHICH TO FOCUS A POLITICAL DEMARCHE SINCE HE HAS THE PRIME MINISTER'S EAR DIRECTLY AND CONTINUOUSLY.

3. WE HAVE GOOD ACCESS TO BOTH MEHTA AND DHAR HERE AND CAN DISCUSS U.S. CONCERNS AND VIEWS FRANKLY WITH BOTH. THE HIGHER-LEVEL THE COMMUNICATION FROM THE USG, HOWEVER, THE MORE SERIOUS WILL BE ITS POLITICAL IMPACT. THE KEY COMMUNICATIONS WILL PROBABLY HAVE TO BE FROM THE SECRETARY AND ULTIMATELY FROM THE PRESIDENT. WE ARE NOT SAGUINE THAT INDIAN POSITIONS CAN BE SIGNIFICANTLY MOVED ON ANY OF THE THREE KEY ISSUES OF CONCERN TO THE U.S. WE SUSPECT THIS IS PROBABLY TRUE REGARDLESS OF POSITIONS TAKEN BY THE USG ON BILATERAL ISSUES OF INTEREST TO INDIA IN THE NEXT FEW MONTHS, BUT THERE IS LITTLE DOUBT THAT U.S. LEVERAGE WILL DIMINISH IF THE GOI IS DISSATISFIED WITH U.S. POSITIONS ON SUCH ISSUES.

SCHNEIDER

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## Message Attributes

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